

# LOCAL BALLOT QUESTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

About Question 8:

## What it will look like on the ballot:

### 8. NEW POLICE STATION

#### **BONDS AND/OR NOTES NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000,000**

(Chapters 223 and 262 – Public Laws 2016)

“Shall an act, passed at the 2016 session of the general assembly, entitled ‘AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH TO ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND/OR NOTES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000,000 FOR THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPPING AND FURNISHING OF A NEW POLICE STATION IN THE TOWN’ be approved?”

**Approve**

**Reject**

### Approve

Your vote to “Approve” this question means that you support the Town of Portsmouth issuing not more than \$10,000,000 in general obligation bonds for the design, construction, and equipping of a new Police Station.

### Reject

Your vote to “Reject” this question means that you are against the Town of Portsmouth issuing not more than \$10,000,000 in general obligation bonds to construct and equip a new Police Station. The existing facilities would not be altered.

## Explanation and purpose of Question 8:

In 2015, a Feasibility & Space Needs Study was conducted by Drummey Rosane Anderson, Inc. for both the Portsmouth Police and Fire Facilities (complete study available at the Town of Portsmouth website <https://www.portsmouthri.com/documentcenter/view/949>). The study collected data about existing facilities, examining how space is currently used. It compared these findings to current standards and requirements, explored a variety of options, and concluded that the current police station is considerably undersized and insufficient for law enforcement functions; poses numerous safety, security and health concerns; and attempting any additions/renovations would be highly disruptive and create even more issues.

Voters are being presented with this bond issue in order to authorize the Town of Portsmouth to fund the recommendation that a new police facility be constructed.

### How much money will be borrowed?

Not more than \$10,000,000

### Project time table:

Construction would commence July/August 2017 and take 14 to 16 months to complete, with expected occupancy October/November 2018.

### Why now?

The Town’s recent upgrade to AAA bond rating, low interest rates, and a large portion of the Town’s existing debt is being paid off, means that this will not impact the current budget of annual debt payments.

### Total Project & Issuance Costs

Principle	Interest*	Total Costs
\$10,000,000	\$2,100,000	\$12,100,000

\*AAA Bond Rating: estimated 2%

Annual payment schedule available on Town website.

# PORTSMOUTH, RI

## Bond for New Police Station



### How Much Money will be borrowed?

Up to \$10,000,000.

### How was this determined?

This was based on estimated developed during the concept design process in conjunction with Drummey Rosane Anderson, Inc.

### What will the annual payment be for this bond?

	Principal	Interest*	Total
Year 1	\$500,000	\$200,000	\$700,000
Year 2	\$500,000	\$190,000	\$690,000
Year 3	\$500,000	\$180,000	\$680,000
Year 4	\$500,000	\$170,000	\$670,000
Year 5	\$500,000	\$160,000	\$660,000
Years 6-10	\$2,500,000	\$650,000	\$3,150,000
Years 11-20	\$5,000,000	\$550,000	\$5,550,000
Total	\$10,000,000	\$2,100,000	\$12,100,000

Portsmouth has a AAA Bond Rating: Estimate Interest rate is 2%

### What is the Town's current debt payments?

FY 2017	\$2,514,121
FY 2018	\$2,144,800
FY 2019	\$2,033,754
FY 2020	\$1,778,902
FY 2021	\$1,717,614
FY 2022-2027	\$4,803,891
FY 2028 – FY 2037	\$2,784,219
Total	\$ 17,777,301

# LOCAL BALLOT QUESTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS (Cont)

About Question 9:

**What it will look like on the ballot:**

**9. AMENDMENT TO THE PORTSMOUTH HOME RULE CHARTER**

**TOWN CLERK**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 11, 2016)

“Shall the Town Clerk be an appointed position?” (Amends Art. V, Sec. 501)

IF APPROVED THIS AMENDMENT WILL TAKE EFFECT ON NOVEMBER 6, 2018.

**Approve**

**Reject**

**Approve**

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Your vote to “Approve” this question means that you want to amend the Town Charter to make the position of Town Clerk a department head appointed by the Town Administrator with approval by the Town Council.

**Reject**

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Your vote to “Reject” this question means that you do not want to amend the Town Charter, and you want to maintain the Town Clerk as an elected position.

**Explanation and purpose of Question 9:**

Currently, the Town Clerk is the only department head position elected by the voters every two years. This amendment would make the Town Clerk a department head position appointed by the Town Administrator with approval by the Town Council, like all other department head positions.

Current Charter	Proposed Amendment to Charter
<p>501. <u>Town Clerk</u>. There shall be a Town Clerk who shall be a qualified elector. He/She shall be elected at the biennial election pursuant to provisions of state law. His/Her duties and prerogatives shall be those defined by statute. (Adopted November 7, 1972; eff. Date July 1, 1975.)</p>	<p>501. <u>Town Clerk</u>. There shall be a Town Clerk who shall be appointed by the Town Administrator with approval by the Town Council. The Town Clerk shall serve as department head for the office of the Town Clerk. The duties and prerogatives of the Town Clerk shall be those defined by statute, together with such additional duties as may be assigned by the Town Administrator.</p>